

Stanhope Barrington C of E
Primary School



Westcroft
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Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

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Dear Parent/Carer

8th November 2021

Re: Colour Blindness Screening

As you may know, one of our Year 6 pupils (Malachi Sawyer) has written a book called Colour Blindness and Me which has been publicised on our website. From the sale of books, Malachi and his family kindly paid for our entire staff team to receive training in Colour Blindness Awareness to help us to spot the signs and symptoms and how to meet the educational needs of children who have colour blindness. The training was amazing and we are very grateful for the funding which came from profits from the sale of the book.

We are now looking to take this a step further and have agreed to work with a research team based at Newcastle University who are currently carrying out research into colour blindness in primary aged children and its possible consequences.

Ideally, we would like every child in our school to have Colour Blindness Screening. This will only take 5 minutes per child and takes place in the form of a fun game.

If the screening indicates that your child could have some sort of colour deficiency, they would then have a second round of tests – again, these are child friendly games and activities which will give a more in-depth understanding of the potential issues.

Colour Blindness affects 1 in 12 boys and 1 in 200 girls. It can cause significant challenges for children both at school and in living their every day lives. If we are aware of Colour Blindness there are a huge range of strategies we can put in place to support them and you.

If you would like your child to be screened for Colour Blindness please complete and return the attached form by Friday 19th November 2021.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What is the research project about?
The first screening will provide information to the school by identifying any child who may have colour blindness.
The second screening will support our research project. The aim of the project is to learn more about the impact colour blindness has on self-esteem and how children see themselves.
2. Is the screening confidential?
Following the first screening Stanhope Barrington CofE Primary School will be informed of any child who has been identified as colour blind.
Following the second screening (if appropriate) each child will be given a confidential identifier code. Only data will be used in our research report and no child will be identifiable in the report.
As parents/carers you will be informed of the outcome of any screening results.
3. What will happen if I don't want my child to take part?
That is absolutely fine. If you do not return the consent form your child will not be screened.
4. What are the benefits of taking part?
Firstly, the school will become aware that your child is colour blind and can put the necessary support in place to help them to overcome any challenges.
Government policies across education will be influenced to encourage all schools to carry out screening at a young age so that appropriate advice can be given and teaching can be adapted.
On a personal level, if your child is confirmed as colour blind you can request our data (via the consent form) and we will be happy to explain our findings to you.
5. What are the possible disadvantages of taking part?
There are no known disadvantages. If a child is identified as colour blind they will not be informed of this at any point during our research. This will be up to the school and parents to discuss and agree a way forward.
6. Who is conducting the research?
The majority of the testing will be performed by trained students from Newcastle University. The testing sessions will be closely supervised by the project leaders: Drs Gabriele Jordan and Sinead Mullally (academic staff members of the School of Psychology at Newcastle University). All members of the team have full DBS clearance to work with children.
7. Has the study received ethical approval?
The Newcastle University Faculty of Medical Science Ethics Committee approved the study (Ref: 163/8610/2018).
8. Any Queries:
If you have any questions before agreeing to take part or should you wish to file a complaint, please contact:
Gabriele Jordan – Gabriele.jordan@newcastle.ac.uk
Sinead Mullally – sinead.mullally@newcastle.ac.uk

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I give consent for my child:(name of child) to take part in the Colour Blindness Screening and research project to be carried out by Newcastle University.

I understand that the school will be informed of the result of the screening and that this information will be shared with me.

I understand that if my child is identified as being colour blind from the first screening, they will then take part in a second more detailed screening.

I understand that even if my child is not identified as colour blind from the first screening, they may be selected to take part in the second screening as part of a control group.

I understand that my child will not be identifiable from any research report which will result from this screening.

Signed:(Parent/Carer)